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APR 12 2010

**Environmental  
Cleanup Office**

Teck American Incorporated  
501 N Riverpoint Blvd., Suite 300  
Spokane, WA 99202  
PO Box 3087  
Spokane, WA 99220-3087

+1 509 747-6111 Tel  
+1 509 922-8767 Fax  
www.teck.com

**Teck**

April 7, 2010

File No.: 1-773180-000

Ms. Helen Bottcher  
Project Coordinator, Office of Environmental Cleanup  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10  
1200 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 900 (ECL-111)  
Seattle, WA 98101-3140

Subject: Upper Columbia River Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (UCR RI/FS) – Funding for the Acute and Chronic Surface Water Toxicity Tests using White Sturgeon (*Acipenser transmontanus*)

Dear Ms. Bottcher:

This letter acknowledges receipt of your request for funding of white sturgeon toxicity tests as received on April 1, 2010. In accordance with your instructions, **\$602,000.00** will be electronically transferred to the U.S. Department of Interior (DOI) Central Hazardous Materials Fund no later than **April 8, 2010**. Teck American Incorporated (Teck) has provided this funding to allow the United States Geological Survey (USGS) to conduct surface water acute and chronic toxicity studies in white sturgeon and rainbow trout in 2010<sup>1</sup>. These studies are designed to fulfill needs/components outlined in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) white sturgeon level of effort document.

It is understood that Teck is providing this funding due to space limitations which will be observed given the parallel white sturgeon sediment toxicity testing being conducted at the University of Saskatchewan (U of S). As you are aware, the U of S laboratory would not have the necessary space to concurrently conduct surface water and sediment toxicity testing as presently envisioned by the respective design elements. We wish to confirm that if sediment samples are not available in 2010, adequate space within the U of S laboratory will exist. As such, there will be ample opportunity for continued collaborative efforts on this matter between Teck and EPA. We are hopeful that parallel white sturgeon toxicity testing (surface water and sediment exposure) will occur in 2010; and will continue to work with the EPA to that end.

<sup>1</sup> As stated in your letter, these costs include the drafting of a Quality Assurance Project Plan, performance of laboratory exposures, including the supporting chemical analysis, and preparation of a draft report.

**USEPA SF**



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As with annual participation costs made to DOI, the aforementioned funds will be electronically transferred to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York in accordance with the following account information:

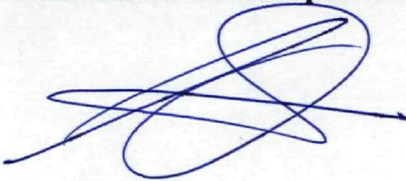
Federal Reserve Bank of New York  
ABA # = 021030004  
ALC # = 14010001  
33 Liberty Street  
New York, NY 10045  
Department of Interior, Central Hazardous Materials Fund  
"Upper Columbia River Site, Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area"

I would like to take this opportunity to remind the EPA that the aforementioned funding is provided to conduct studies required under the terms and conditions of the June 2, 2006 Settlement Agreement (Agreement). As such, and per the terms of the Agreement, EPA may release final report(s) and non-privileged analysis using data collected under the Agreement as part of the Administrative Record for selection of any response action. It is therefore Teck's position that the USGS may not publish results or data analyses obtained through this study in any form, including, but not necessarily limited to open-file report(s) as is suggested within the "work plan". At this time, we have not fully reviewed the "work plan" but reserve the right to provide additional comments on the aforementioned attachment in the very near future.

Thank you in advance for your time and attention on this matter and we look forward to your continued cooperation. Should you have any questions or require any additional information at this time, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at (509) 892-2585.

Sincerely,

**Teck American Incorporated**



Marko E. Adzic, P.E.  
Manager, Environmental Engineering

cc: David Godlewski - Teck, Spokane, WA  
C. Bruce DiLuzio - Teck, Spokane, WA  
Len Manuel - Teck Resources Limited, Vancouver, BC, Canada  
Monica Tonel - EPA, Seattle, WA  
Daniel Audet - Department of Interior, National Park Service, Spokane, WA  
Sheila King - Teck Accounting, Spokane, WA